



AFROGRAM

The African American Advisory Group (AAAG) Newsletter

NASA Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, CA 94035

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AAAG Officers:

Chair - James Busby

Vice-Chair - Gilena Monroe

Secretary - Gail Woll

Treasurer - Paula Harris

Committee Chairs:

Special Events/Fund Raisers-
Melisa Kirven-Brooks and Rose M.
King

Newsletter

Rhonda Baker - Editor

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Illustration

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Awards Nomination Database -
Christine Munroe and Sheila
Johnson

Strategic Plan/By Laws - Gail
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Barbara Miller, Special Advisor to
the Chair

Kevin Jones - Chair Emeritus

Communications:

AAAG email alias

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Ray.Gilstrap@nasa.gov

To share information, send an
email directly to aaag@ratogi.org
AAAG Website

<http://eo.arc.nasa.gov/AAAG/index.nw.htm>

Meeting Schedule:

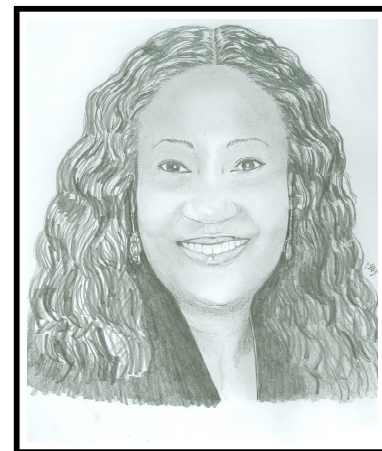
The last Wednesday of each
month at noon, Meeting Location:
N255, Conference Room

UP Close & Personal

With Sheila Johnson

A Diamond Among Diamonds

If you have worked at Ames more than a year, you probably know Sheila. She has been at Ames for 22 years, and before that at DoD's Defense Contract Audit Agency for 7 years. Sheila has planned most of the Center's major community events. She planned the first Ames cultural diversity street fair, the first diversity conference, and the 60th, 65th, and now 70th anniversaries of Ames Research Center. Sheila also planned several Center memorials, many of the AAAG Black History Month luncheons, summer student picnics, student field trips to San Francisco, student Jazz concerts, and, if guests are going to Shuttle launches, that's right--see Sheila. When Space Camp was at Ames, they came to her looking for youth of color. Sheila was successful in locating students. When Space Camp closed, Sheila continued in this effort. She was instrumental in establishing a [program, Pathfinder: Science, Math, and Technology (P:SMT) to raise funds for]summer camp for young girls in grades 4-8. Now in the ninth year of sending girls to camps that stress science, math and technology, she, through her organization, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Silicon Valley Chapter, has sent over 750 girls to camps that teach science, math, and technology.



Did I mention that Sheila is currently the Chapter President? In fact, President seems to be what she is known for, as eventually she becomes President whenever she joins an organization. Sheila is currently, or has been, president of the following: Evergreen Valley United Methodist Church Administrative Council, The Ranch on Silver Creek Homeowners Association, United Methodist San Jose District Church Extension Society, National Council of Negro Women, San Jose Chapter and NCBW-SVC. She has also served on the board of the American Red Cross of Santa Clara, and the NCBW National Board. In 2002, KGO-TV, Channel 7, honored Sheila with their Profile of Excellence award for her work with the Red Cross, and with the NCBW-SVC P:SMT girls summer camp program.

Over Sheila's career in Federal service, she spent 7 years working for DoD at the Defense Contract Audit Agency, 7 years in the Ames Director's office, and the last 15 years in Public Affairs. In the past 22 years, Sheila has worked with 7 Center Directors. Is 7 her lucky number? When asking what she likes most about her job, she says it's the diversity of it. "As the Ames Protocol person for Governmental visits, one day you're greeting the President of the United States, the Secretary of State and/or the Prime Minister of England. The next day, you're giving a VIP tour to William Shatner, planning a Center event and/or supporting guest operations at a Shuttle or rocket launch. And, for 7 years, Sheila ran the Speakers Bureau at Ames. Who wouldn't like having this job?" Sheila sees Ames as an exciting place to work. "You're judged on the quality of your work," she says. "I've seen history and stood where history was made. No other agency allows that type of exposure; and, for that exposure, I'm grateful."

February's Black History Month Trivia

Congratulations to Lorraine Ruiz who was the winner of February's Black History Month Trivia sponsored by the African American Advisory Group. Lorraine responded to both sets of trivia questions which were published in Heads Up Ames. Thanks to all who participated in this activity.

MESSAGE

Our AAAG Secretary, Gail Woll
had a successful kidney transplant
Friday, April 17, 2009. Please keep
Gail in your prayers.



Welcome to
The 1st Annual Braxton Open
Golf Tournament
June 12, 2009

At the Moffett Field Golf Course



Sponsored by the African American Advisory Group for Employees (AAAG)

Registration at 9:00 am
Starting time at 10:00am
Cost is \$85.00 with Golf Cart

SCRAMBLE TOURNAMENT

Great Raffle Prizes, Golf Bags, Pictures and More
Everyone is welcome! So come out and have fun!

To Register contact Nelson Japlit at (650) 604-3428, Nelson.M.Japlit@nasa.gov, or Melody Miles at (650) 604-0074,
Melody.Miles-I@nasa.gov

Please pay registration fee promptly, make checks payable to AAAG

Bradford Named Chief of Staff

Karen Bradford was named Chief of Staff to Dr. S. Pete Worden, Ames Center Director. In this newly created position Karen is a member of the Ames Research center's executive team. Karen came to Ames in October, 2000 and gained a wealth of knowledge by working for the Astrobiology Institute, Chief Financial Office, Astrobiology Strategic Analysis and Support Office and the Director's Office. Prior to joining Ames, she worked in a variety of federal agencies including the Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). During her career, she assisted in setting up a law library in the Office of Regional Counsel at the EPA in San Francisco, and was the project manager for building a new payroll office at the Navy Public Works Center, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Congratulating Karen for a job well done.



Actor Morgan Freeman Will Host Science Channel Documentary

"Actor Morgan Freeman is teaming with the Science Channel to make a series on space exploration that is expected to air on the cable network early next year." Freeman will narrate the series "Through the Wormhole," which "will look into such topics as the possibility of life beyond Earth, future expeditions to Mars and problems caused by the sun." Freeman "said he's particularly interested in the idea of manned exploration of Mars."

